



Nutrition Services – Commodity Supplemental Food Program

Reducing resources (FTE's and grant revenue) would mean fewer participants served. This could result in an increase of hunger not being addressed among Program eligible Louisianans. The larger the resources, the more eligible Louisianans can receive nutritious foods and nutrition education services, lowering nutritional problems among Louisianans.

Objective

To supplement the diets of low-income senior citizens aged sixty and above, with high protein, nutrient-dense foods in order to help prevent the ravages of clinical malnutrition among this population.

To provide Nutritious commodities and nutrition education to help supplement the nutritional needs of low income pregnant and postpartal women, and children to the age of six, to promote healthy food choices and improve health.

Performance Indicators

- Number of CSFP participants served
- 90% caseload usage standard

Narrative

CSFP is the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for senior citizens as well as for mothers, infants, and children. This Program is 100% federally funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service.

CSFP serves the following population:

- Seniors citizens above the age of 60
- Pregnant women
- Breastfeeding and/or Postpartum women until one year after delivery or pregnancy termination
- Infants until 1 year of age
- Children until 6 years of age

These recipients must be found eligible to participate in the program based on the following criteria:

- Income below 185 percent of poverty for women, infants, and children;
- Income below 130 percent of poverty for senior citizens over age 60; and
- Louisiana residency.

CSFP provides food rather than the food instruments that WIC participants receive. CSFP and WIC are complementary in operation since low-income, nutritionally-vulnerable clients who do not have a nutrition risk qualifying for WIC can apply for CSFP services. Also once WIC participants are no longer categorically eligible to receive services they may apply for CSFP to continue to receive supplemental foods until they reach the end of CSFP categorical eligibility. A person is not allowed to participate in both programs at the same time.

The recipients of these services are served in all 64 parishes.

While foods are procured through the USDA, an administrative grant is provided to the Program for administration of the daily activities. A yearly caseload corresponding to the grant is assigned to the Program by USDA. In Louisiana, CSFP is administered by 1.8 FTE's in the Office of Public Health-Nutrition Services while field operations are sub-contracted to the New Orleans Catholic Charities to provide warehousing, client certification, and food distribution services.

Food delivery system

The commodity foods are ordered from the USDA by CSFP State level staff to be delivered at the 7 warehouses around the state operated via contract by the New Orleans Catholic Archdiocese Food For Families, Food for Seniors Program.

Food packages are primarily pre-assembled and to a lesser extent assembled at the actual distribution sites at regular monthly intervals. Food packages are distributed at over 98 food distribution sites around the state or in the case of homebound elderly, home-delivered by volunteers.

Supplemental foods provided

Supplemental foods include: infant formula and cereal, non-fat dry and evaporated milk, juice, farina, oats, ready-to-eat cereals, rice, pasta, egg mix, peanut butter, dry beans or peas, canned meat or poultry or tuna, cheese and canned fruits and vegetables.

Nationally, the Louisiana CSFP is the second largest program. USDA assigns a caseload of the monthly number of participants a state may serve adjusted based on federal funds available. Louisiana's current allotted caseload is 65,000; of which 99% is senior citizens.

Better Health

Activities conducted by the CSFP Program advance the State Outcome Goal of "Better Health" as they address the main requirements of the Request for Results:

The field operations of the Louisiana CSFP are accomplished by a long standing contract with New Orleans Catholic Charities. This collaborative effort is an effective and cost saving venture due to the many collaborative efforts statewide afforded through Catholic Charities. These collaborative efforts include:

- Assistance at pre-packing warehouses by law enforcement agencies that provide prison trustees to assemble pre-packed boxes
- Council on Aging distribution sites
- Church distribution sites
- Community centers distribution and on-site packaging sites
- Community based entities distribution sites: the Zephyr's baseball organization's parking lot and community parks.
- Community volunteers provide home delivery to seniors not able to travel to a distribution site and do not have a person to serve as their proxy.

Geographic distribution of providers and facilities

CSFP services are provided in over 98 distribution sites across the 64 parishes in Louisiana.

Integrated and community based care and services

CSFP field activities are conducted by a faith-based entity, the New Orleans Catholic Charities.

Partnerships and collaborations

Council on Aging distribution sites

Church distribution sites

Community centers distribution and on-site packaging sites

Community based entities distribution sites: the Zephyr's baseball organization's parking lot and community parks.

Community volunteers provide home delivery to seniors not able to travel to a distribution site and do not have a person to serve as their proxy.

Evidence: Federal statute governing CSFP activities: Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 Title 7 Agriculture CFR Part 247. CSFP participation is reported as a standard set used by USDA which is the number of participants receiving a food box during the reported month.

Below is the latest history of CSFP participation:

	FFY 2008	FFY 2007	FFY 2006
Mothers, Infants, Children:	1,000	N/A	505
Elderly:	63,399	N/A	47,882
Total:	64,399	N/A	48,387